

CLAIMS

1. An apparatus for moulding an article made of thermosetting and thermoplastic material, comprising:

5 - a first and a second half-mould provided with respective compression moulding surfaces able to compress between them at least one plate of mouldable thermosetting material, and

10 - at least one injection moulding area communicating with at least one of said compression moulding surfaces,

15 - spacer means provided in said injection moulding area and positioned in such a way as to prevent said plate from penetrating into said injection moulding area when it is compressed between said compression moulding surfaces.

2. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said spacer means are integral with one of said half-moulds and project from at least one surface of said injection moulding area.

20 3. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said spacer means comprise a plurality of pin-shaped elements projecting from a bottom surface of said injection moulding area.

25 4. An apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein said pin-shaped projecting elements have respective support surfaces destined to come in contact with a surface of said plate.

5. A method for moulding an article made of thermosetting material, comprising the steps of:

30 - compressing a plate of mouldable thermosetting material between two mutually opposite moulding surfaces,

35 - providing at least one injection moulding area communicating with at least one of said moulding surfaces, and

- injecting plastic material in contact with a surface portion of said plate into said injection moulding area,

5 - providing spacer means in said injection moulding area, positioned in such a way as to prevent the penetration of said plate into said injection moulding area.

6. A method as claimed in claim 5, comprising the step of heating said plate in contact with said half-shells until reaching a polymerisation temperature of
10 the plastic material constituting said plate.

7. A method as claimed in claim 6, comprising the step of heating the thermoplastic material before its injection into the aforesaid injection moulding area
15 and cooling said thermoplastic material in contact with said half-moulds down to a temperature of partial hardening.